

Cielito Lindo

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"**Cielito lindo**" is a popular [Ranchera](#) song from [Mexico](#), written in 1882 by [Quirino Mendoza y Cortés](#) (c. 1859–1957).^[1] Commonly played by [mariachi](#) bands, it has been recorded by many artists, that range from [Pedro Infante](#) to [Pavarotti](#). Pedro Infante sang it in the famous film [Los Tres García](#).

The melody was used as the basis for a popular English-language song, "[You, Me, and Us](#)," which became a hit for [Alma Cogan](#) in the [United Kingdom](#) in [1957](#).

Another popular and traditional song called "[Cielito lindo](#)" also known as "[Cielito lindo huasteco](#)" from [La Huasteca](#) in Mexico, has been played by most, if not all, [Conjunto huastecos](#), as it is considered one of the most popular [Son Huasteco](#) or [Huapango](#) songs. Sometimes [mariachi](#) bands perform both versions of the Cielito lindo, which are completely different, one after the other.

In recent decades it has come to be **widely known as a theme song for Mexicans**, particularly in international circumstances, like the [FIFA World Cup](#).

Lyrics

Lyrics vary widely from performer to performer and every singer is free to add some new verse to their own interpretation.

Some of the most traditional lyrics are the following:

| Spanish | literal English Translation | metaphoric English Translation |
|--|---|---|
| De la Sierra Morena , Cielito lindo, vienen bajando, Un par de ojitos negros, Cielito lindo, de contrabando. | From the Sierra Morena mountains, Pretty darling, they come down, a pair of black eyes, Pretty sweetheart, which are contraband. | Through dark tresses, heavenly one, a pair of deep brown eyes, (that could steal a man's heart), lower as they approach. |
| Estrillo: Ay, ay, ay, ay, Canta y no llores, Porque cantando se alegran, Cielito lindo, los corazones. | Refrain: Ay, ay, ay, ay, sing and don't cry, because singing gladdens, pretty sweetheart, one's heart. | Refrain: Ay, ay, ay, ay, sing and don't cry, heavenly one, for singing gladdens the heart. |
| Pájaro que abandona, Cielito lindo, su primer nido, Si lo encuentra ocupado, | Bird that abandons, pretty darling, his first nest, if he finds it occupied, | A bird that abandons his first nest, heavenly one, then finds it occupied by |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Cielito lindo, bien merecido. | pretty sweetheart, is well deserved. | another, deserves to lose it. |
| (Estrillo) | (Refrain) | (Refrain) |
| Ese lunar que tienes, Cielito lindo, junto a la boca, No se lo des a nadie, Cielito lindo, que a mí me toca. | That beauty mark you have pretty darling, next to your mouth, don't give it to anyone, pretty sweetheart, for it belongs to me. | That beauty mark you have next to your mouth, heavenly one, don't share with anyone but me who appreciates it. |
| (Estrillo) | (Refrain) | (Refrain) |
| Si tu boquita morena, Fuera de azúcar, fuera de azúcar, Yo me lo pasaría, Cielito lindo, chupa que chupa. | If your little brown mouth were made of sugar, were made of sugar I would spend my time, pretty sweetheart, sucking(x2) | If your little mouth were made of sugar, heavenly one, I would spend my time enjoying its sweetness. |
| (Estrillo) | (Refrain) | (Refrain) |
| De tu casa a la mía, Cielito lindo, no hay más que un paso, Antes que venga tu madre, Cielito lindo, dame un abrazo. | From your house to mine pretty darling, there is no more than a step. Before your mother comes, pretty sweetheart, give me a hug. | From your house to mine there is no more than a step. Before your mother comes, heavenly one, give me a hug. |
| (Estrillo) | (Refrain) | (Refrain) |
| Una flecha en el aire, Cielito lindo, lanzó Cupido, y como fue jugando, Cielito lindo, yo fui el herido. | An arrow in the air pretty sweetheart, Cupid launched And since it was a game, pretty darling, I got hurt. | Cupid shot off an arrow, heavenly one, And though he was playing, I was wounded. |
| (Estrillo) | (Refrain) | (Refrain) |

[\[edit\]](#) See also

- "[México Lindo y Querido](#)", another traditional Mexican song
- "**México lindo y querido**" is a traditional [mariachi](#) and [ranchera Mexican song](#) written by [Chucho Monge](#) and made famous by singer [Jorge Negrete](#) ("the singing [charro](#)").^[1] It is widely known throughout the Spanish-speaking world for its characterization of patriotism and loyalty for the rural land of Mexico.^[2] It has been covered by many artists, including [Ana Gabriel](#) and [Vicente Fernández](#).
- The most recognizable stanza of the song states:

| Spanish | English Translation |
|-----------------------------|--|
| México lindo y querido | Pretty and beloved Mexico |
| Si muero lejos de ti | If I die far from your soil |
| Que digan que estoy dormido | Say that I am asleep |
| Y que me traigan aquí | And bring me back to thee ^[3] |

- [\[edit\]](#) See also